

'The CIA Told Him To Do It'

Lawyer Defends Cuba Trade Suspect

By JAMES BUCHANAN
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The attorney for a refugee charged with illegally forwarding money to Cuba claimed Wednesday that the man was doing it at the instruction of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Nestor Morales, defending Pedro O. Alayeto on charges of trading with the enemy, told U.S. Commissioner Roger F. Davis, "agents of the CIA, forced him to do this."

Alayeto, 40, head of Sonmaded Enterprises, Inc., was arrested Tuesday in his office at the Pan American Bank Building. Wednesday his bound him over to the grand jury for investigation and possible indictment.

E. E. Minskoff, chief of the Treasury Department's enforcement division, at Washington, pointed out at the preliminary hearing that had Alayeto, a Cuban national, been requested to send money to Cuba for government agents "he could have obtained a license to do so."

The exchange operator, the government said, continued to advertise that he could get funds to Cuba "long after July 9, when the complete freeze on such activities went into effect."

Alayeto, who lives at 157 SE 12th St., is specifically charged with having foreign exchange transactions in Cuba and engaging in such transactions for the benefit of persons in Communist Cuba.

Minskoff, called Morales' assertions that the CIA was behind Alayeto's actions "a red herring" and denied he had refused the defendant permission to make a call to the CIA at the time of his arrest.

"He made a dozen calls," Minskoff said, "including those to the CIA, his lawyers, and even one canceling a flying lesson he was supposed to take later in the day."

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